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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

HIROYUKI IMAI, ET AL.

SERIAL NO.: 09/783,518

FILED: FEBRUARY 21, 2001

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 1745

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: EXAMINER: TSANG FOSTER, S.

FOR: COLLECTOR FOR ALKALINE
SECONDARY BATTERY, METHOD
FOR MAKING THE SAME, AND
ALKALINE SECONDARY BATTERY
USING THE SAME

11/A
6.3.3

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 17, as follows:

--In this method, the hydrophilizing step preferably includes a treatment selected from sulfonation, gaseous fluorine treating, and vinyl monomer grafting. The nonwoven fabric hydrophilized by the above treatment has a uniform and fine negative charge over the entire region. In this collector, the plated nickel film is tightly bonded to the nonwoven fabric, improving its conductivity. Moreover, the plated nickel film does not scale off in use in an aqueous 20-35 weight% KOH solution, which is an electrolyte generally used in alkaline secondary batteries, over a long period, preventing an increase in surface resistance.--